

Notice of Allowability**Application No.**

10/734,027

Examiner

RITA R. PATEL

Applicant(s)

GOEDHART ET AL.

Art Unit

1792

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 1/21/08.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-7,9-15 and 19-25.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Rita R. Patel/
Examiner, Art Unit 1792

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Applicant's Amendments

This Office Action is responsive to the amendment filed on 1/21/08. Claims 1, 3-7, 9-15, and 19-25 are pending. Claims 2, 8, and 16-18 have been canceled. Claims 1, 7, 10-11, 14, and 19 have been amended. Claims 20-25 are new.

In light of the amendments made to the claims, the 35 USC 102 and 35 USC 103 rejections have been overcome. Upon further consideration, the instant claims are considered allowable.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Kevin W. Guynn on 4/4/08.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, line 14, delete --30 degrees F-- and replace with --16 degrees C--.

In claim 20, line 13, --30 degrees F-- and replace with --16 degrees C--.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3-7, 9-15, and 19-25 are allowed.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the amendments made to the claims filed 1/21/08 overcome the prior art and upon further search and consideration no other prior art anticipates or suggests fairly the combination of structural elements as instantly claimed. More specifically the prior art of record fails to teach a solvent cleaning process of cleaning a non-aqueous solvent used in dry cleaning for fabrics, the dry cleaning process including a basic solvent refining cycle and a second solvent fraction wherein either a first reduction of temperature of the solvent is done below 0 degrees C and then passing the cooling solvent through a cross-flow membrane filter or the first advanced solvent refining cycle comprising a step of low temperature evaporation of the second solvent fraction at a temperature at least 16 degrees C below a flash point of the solvent in combination with Applicant's claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure:

Conrad et al. (Pub. No. US 2004/0139555) teaches a non-aqueous washing machine and method for providing filtering and reclamation of the washing solvent.

Goldoni et al. (Pub. No. US 2005/0133462) teaches a method of disposing waste from an in-home dry cleaning machine using disposable containment system which includes a purification apparatus and optional recirculation loop.

Suissa (US Patent No. 4,879,888) teaches a dry cleaning machine for recycling dry cleaning solvent to a filter, still, condenser, and separator.

Takagawa et al. (US Patent No. 5,498,266) teaches a method of washing and drying clothes in a dry cleaner wherein the dry cleaning solution is evaporated after washing is performed.

Grossman (US Patent No. 5,653,873) teaches a system for reducing liquid waste generated by dry cleaning.

Flynn et al. (US Patent No. 5,962,390) teaches a cleaning process and composition for removing contaminants from a surface of a fabric article.

Wehr (US Patent No. 4,086,705) teaches a dry cleaning system with solvent recovery.

Chung (US Patent No. 5,943,720) teaches a zero emission dry cleaning machine and process which filters dry cleaning solvent and further processes it by a distillation unit.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to RITA R. PATEL whose telephone number is (571)272-8701. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 9-6.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Barr can be reached on (571) 272-1414. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Michael Barr/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art
Unit 1792

/Rita R. Patel/
Examiner, Art Unit 1792